



Monterey Pines – July 28, 2023

As mentioned in our overview recap of this Monterey trip, this was the Carmichael Golf Club's (CGC) 1st visit to Monterey Pines.

Situated only about a mile from Del Monte, Monterey Pines has been open for 60 years – but many of those were as a military golf course not available to the public. The course is wedged in between the Fairgrounds and the Airport, plays to yardages considered more 'short' course, and had a reputation for many years after being opened to the public as not being in very good condition.

We first had the opportunity to play this course in 2021 as a guest of some CGC members who were playing with the PGA Hope retired military group – and came away thinking this might be a nice, interesting addition to our CGC Monterey trip rotation.

Based on the responses of many players after the round on this day (throughout the handicap spectrum of the group), we're pretty sure we'll be back on future trips. The green rolled beautifully – but were extremely (and surprisingly) challenging. Players needed to hit shots to make their way around the course – 2 of the 5 toughest holes on the trip were at Monterey Pines (Par 5 1st and Par 4 10th). Only 1 player broke net par 70, while 7 players shot scores of net 80 or higher.

Another wonderful weather day (fog when we first got to the course, clearing off early in the round – with enough breeze to tease most on how many layers to wear throughout the day), and a comfortable outside patio area where many folks lingered after the round.

The Flight winners on this day were as follows:

1st: Mike A. Johnson, net 72 (by 2 strokes over Jerry Fat)

2nd: Gary Borge, net 74 (won tie-breaker over Kathy Green)

3rd: Bill Wade, net 68 (by 6 strokes over Judy Hales)